

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) ~~Use of a composition~~ A method of treating cancer comprising administering a composition comprising an extract of a *Calotropis procera* plant, and at least one therapeutic compound and/or a physical treatment that exerts relevant, detrimental side effects on normal, non-cancer related cells, tissues or organs ~~for the preparation of a medicament for treating cancer~~ to an individual in need of treatment.
2. (Currently amended) ~~Use of a composition~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein said extract is obtained using an extraction procedure, comprising the steps of:
 - a) ~~extracting the a starting material of said *Calotropis procera* plant, said starting material being selected among fruits, aerial parts subterranean parts, and their mixtures~~, in an aliphatic alcohol, by dissolving the starting material in said alcohol thereby obtaining a suspension of said material in said alcohol, stirring said suspension, and filtering said suspension by fritted glass thereby obtaining a first filtrate and a first solid part;
 - b) extracting said first solid part in an aliphatic alcohol thereby obtaining a second filtrate and a second solid part;
 - c) combining said first and said second filtrate thereby obtaining a combined filtrate, and evaporating said combined filtrate under vacuum thereby obtaining said extract,wherein said starting material is selected from the group consisting of fruits, aerial parts, subterranean parts, and their mixtures.
3. (Currently amended) ~~Use of a composition~~ The method according to claim 1[[or 2]], where said extract comprises at least two active compounds selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of asclepin, calactin, vorusharin, calotropin, calotropagenin, uzarigenin, calotoxin, usharin, usharidin, and 2''oxo-vorusharin.

4. (Currently amended) ~~Use of a composition~~The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein the weight ratio of extract: therapeutic compound is in the range 0.001 : 1 to 1000 : 1.
5. (Currently amended) ~~Use of a composition~~The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, wherein said cancer is selected from the group ~~comprising~~consisting of breast cancer, lymphoma, sarcoma, pancreatic cancer, melanoma, colorectal cancer, glioma, non small cell lung cancer, small cell lung cancer, skin cancer, bone cancer, ovarian cancer, CNS cancer, renal cancer, bladder cancer, head and neck cancer, prostate cancer, liver cancer, and hematological cancers.
6. (Currently amended) ~~Use of a composition~~The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, wherein said therapeutic compound(s) is an anti-cancer agent.
7. (Currently amended) ~~Use of a composition~~The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, wherein said therapeutic compound is selected from the group ~~comprising~~consisting of adriamycin, alkeran, ara-c, bleomycin, biCNU, busulfan, CCNU, carboplatinum, cisplatinum, cyclophosphamide, cytoxan, daunorubicin, DTIC, 5-FU, fludarabine, gemcitabine (gemzar), herceptin, hexamethylmelamine, hydrea, idarubicin, ifosfamide, irinotecan (camptosar, CPT-11), leustatin, methotrexate, mithramycin, mitomycin, mitoxantrone, muphoran, navelbine, nitrogen mustard, oxaliplatin, rituxan, STI-571, streptozocine, taxol, taxotere, topotecan (hycamtin), velban, vincristine, VP-16, xeloda (capecitabine), ~~or~~ and zevelin.
8. (Currently amended) ~~Use of a composition~~The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, wherein said therapeutic compound(s) is a cytotoxic antibody or a fragment thereof.

Int'l Appl. No. : PCT/EP2003/011192

Int'l filing date : October 9, 2003

9. (Currently amended) ~~Use of a composition~~The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, wherein said therapeutic compound(s) is a cytotoxic hormone or a fragment thereof.
10. (Currently amended) ~~Use of a composition~~The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, wherein said therapeutic compound(s) is a cytotoxic peptide or a fragment thereof.
11. (Currently amended) ~~Use of a composition~~The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, wherein said ~~therapeutic compound(s)~~physical treatment is therapeutic radiation.
12. (Currently amended) ~~Use of a composition~~The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, wherein said extract is administered prior to, after, or at the same time as said therapeutic compound(s).
13. (Currently amended) ~~An extraction process~~A method for obtaining an extract having biologically active components comprising the steps of:
- a) extracting ~~the a~~ starting material of said ~~a~~ *Calotropis procera* plant, ~~said starting material being selected among fruits, aerial parts, subterranean parts, and their mixtures~~, in an aliphatic alcohol, by dissolving the starting material in said alcohol thereby obtaining a suspension of said material in said alcohol, stirring said suspension; and filtering said suspension by fritted glass thereby obtaining a first filtrate and a first solid part;
 - b) extracting said first solid part in an aliphatic alcohol thereby obtaining a second filtrate and a second solid part;
 - c) combining said first and said second filtrate thereby obtaining a combined filtrate; and
 - d) evaporating said combined filtrate under vacuum thereby obtaining said extract, wherein said starting material is selected from the group consisting of fruits, aerial parts, subterranean parts, and their mixtures.

Int'l Appl. No. : PCT/EP2003/011192
Int'l filing date : October 9, 2003

14. (Currently amended) ~~Active~~ An active extract isolated from the ~~process~~ method according to claim 13.
15. (Cancelled)
16. (Currently amended) A kit comprising a container in which an extract of *Calotropis procera* [[a]]as defined in ~~any of claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1 is present, and a container in which a therapeutic compound is present.